DECLASSIFIED Authority LNDKK 745 _ NARA, Date <u>2-21-8</u>2 100 FEB 16 OUTGOING Department of State SPORT INDICATE: COLLECT Classification Amembassy PARIS TOPOL 27:30 PRIORITY SENT TO: Orloin 8 a.m. Deliver WOLF FORCE. Feb 17. 16200 TOPOL 2696, POLTO 2311, G-671 Regarding specific question on official or propagandistic nature Cherepanov lecture which disparaged Western capacity and will to fight over Berlin: Message of entire lecture - of which subject of Berlin only small part - centered on great past and greater future victories USSR on eve 21st .00/2 - 1Party Congress. Cherepanov presentation, therefore, probably reflects pre-Congress propaganda as much as official thinking. However, possibility official Soviet misinterpretation to effect West prepared to retreat from firm position on Berlin must be reckoned with. (Office) Only) Official US estimate Soviet intentions and views set forth in para 5 of remains valid. FYI This SNIE SNIE 100-13-58: Soviet Policy in Berlin Crisis/ maldalantaparacking dealing was pouched USRO January 30, 1959 END FYI PERSONAL PROPERSON CONTRACTOR CON skie ingestygtet mit progrement et innetting til med i kantet en kalender og en foregot progrement State of the control of the second control of the c RX/R Telegraphic to EUR: EE: JAArmit ms 2-16-59 classification ATTE DU_ RA - B.E.L. Timmons AT UNLESS "UNCLASS REPRODUCTION FROM COPY IS PROHIBED.

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Page 2 of telegram to.

be affected by such estimate.

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You should not raise subject at Feb 17 meeting, but if others do, you sould comment along above lines. You should also add that US determination maintain its position in Berlin does not RPT not depend upon any estimate of Soviet intentions (or estimate of how they view our own intentions) and would not it not

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